



ADJC TODAY

The mission of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections is to enhance public protection by changing the delinquent thinking and behaviors of juvenile offenders committed to the Department.

JANET NAPOLITANO, GOVERNOR

DAVID A. GASPAR, DIRECTOR

April 2003

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Prudent Management Requires Innovative Approach To Spending Priorities



As the end of FY 2003 approaches, now is a good time to reflect on the challenges we face as Arizona continues to experience a struggling economy and its impact on the state budget.

The encouraging news is that Governor Janet Napolitano and the leadership of the House and Senate are in agreement on an adjusted budget for the current fiscal year. I am pleased to report that the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) will not be asked to make any significant reductions for FY 2003.

As state leaders continue working on the FY 2004 budget that takes effect July 1, the preliminary consensus is that funding for this Department will not suffer any significant reductions, although there is much debate ahead. However, responsible stewardship of public dollars requires all of us to be diligent in seeking ways to reduce costs. For that reason, I am asking for a careful review of all our budget priorities.

I am convinced that savings can be realized through innovations that encourage a wiser use of resources devoted to the juvenile justice system. It is my belief that by working with the juvenile courts, it is possible to implement community-based alternatives to incarcerating some of the least serious juvenile offenders. This will improve services to youth and families at less cost to taxpayers.

Further, expanded partnerships with other state agencies would also facilitate more effective use of public resources. As we continue on our journey toward safer communities through a reduction in delinquent behavior, it is important for all of us to seek ways to operate more efficiently without reducing the quality of service. É

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***Several ADJC Employees Answer Call To Duty
During Iraq Military Buildup***

*These are the times that try men's souls.
The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot
will shrink from the service of their country.
But he that stands it now deserves
the love and thanks of man and woman.
- Thomas Paine*

The American Patriot Thomas Paine wrote these lines in an effort to bolster the morale of the soldiers who fought with George Washington during the American Revolution.

Now, these lines can also serve for the men and women of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) who have put aside their lives, left the comfort of their families, and have answered the call to duty.

Several ADJC staff have applied for a leave of absence because they were called back to duty as part of the U.S. military buildup in Iraq. In most cases, they have opted to use vacation time, military leave hours as allowed by state rules, or they have taken an unpaid leave of absence.

State personnel rules allow members of an Armed Forces Reserve Unit to obtain up to 240 hours of paid leave within a two-year period in connection with their military service. They may also use any accrued annual leave before they are required to go on unpaid military leave status.

While state personnel rules do not allow other state employees to donate their unused annual leave to persons serving in the military, reserves do retain the right to return to state employment once they have returned to civilian life.

In at least one case, John Kennedy, a Psychology Associate assigned to the Sunrise Mountain Parole Violator's Center, apparently has decided to return to the military for another lengthy tour of duty.

ADJC staff not only serve juvenile offenders in Arizona, but they also defend the interests of all Americans.

In addition to Mr. Kennedy, the following ADJC employees have also notified the Department that they have reported for military duty:

- Kevin Kelly, YCO I, Adobe Mountain,
- Aimee Burch-Schmidt, YCO II, Black Canyon, and
- Manuel Leal, YCO I, Eagle Point.

A number of other ADJC employees are members of an Armed Forces Reserve Unit but have not yet been called back to active-duty status.

ADJC, in conjunction with Governor Janet Napolitano, is planning to honor those employees who have been called back to duty. In the meantime, we offer them our heartfelt thanks. É

ADJC Youth Enrich Their Futures By Earning High School Diplomas

Matthew Neiwerth and “Trevor” know the value of a high school diploma - nearly a quarter of a million dollars over a lifetime.

That is the difference, on average, between the lifetime earnings for individuals who got their high school diploma and those who never completed school. And that is why both young men have worked hard to obtain a regular high school diploma through the Education Division of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC).

ADJC places a high priority on education for youth under its supervision, and hundreds of young men and women earn Eighth Grade Certificates and General Equivalency Diplomas, or GEDs, through ADJC every year.

The Department requires youth in its secure facilities to attend year-round classes six hours a day, five days a week, in a fully accredited school system. That means the high school credits earned through ADJC can be applied toward a regular diploma after release, or youth can focus on earning a GED.

Mr. Neiwerth and Trevor are unique because they managed to obtain enough credits through ADJC to qualify for a regular high school diploma.

Mr. Neiwerth attended Queen Creek High School prior to being sent to ADJC. He was placed at the Eagle Point secure facility. Before earning his release, Mr. Neiwerth earned a total of 21.5 high school credits, which exceeded the 20 credits required under Arizona law to earn a regular high school diploma.

The Department currently is working with Queen Creek High School to complete the necessary documentation to provide Mr. Neiwerth his diploma.

Trevor, currently 17, is scheduled for release from Adobe Mountain in November, but he has already earned enough credits to qualify for a high school diploma.

“Trevor has really been turning his life around by working in a very positive high gear,” said Adobe Principal Walt Coker. “He is well received by other youth, teachers, and staff. His goal is to join the U.S. Marines.”

The Education Division currently is finalizing plans to provide Trevor with his high school diploma.

These are just two of the many youth who have been equipped with the basic tools to find success in life and avoid a return to criminal behavior through ADJC programming.

According to ADJC Superintendent of Education, Dr. Kathleen Karol, the Department hopes to continue finding ways to help its youth earn either a GED or a regular high school diploma, either while incarcerated or after their return to the community. E

***Educational achievement is
one of the key factors that
assist juveniles in choosing
law-abiding behavior.***

ADJC Research Data Is Now Available Online

The Research and Development (R&D) Division has established a new procedure that provides greater access to its reports, fact sheets, and other research data.

ADJC's Research and Development Division makes more tools available for staff online.

The *R&D News*, along with other reports and data collections, can now be accessed through the Internet and Intranet sites established by the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC).

The Internet site can be accessed by any ADJC staff who has authorization to use the Internet. É

MIS Update

by Allen Platt, Certified Novell Engineer, Management Information Systems

Several months ago, it came to MIS's attention that many users were setting their own proxy rights incorrectly. This was allowing other users access to e-mail that was not their own. The MIS e-mail that was sent at that time addressed the proper way to create proxy access for your e-mail to be viewed by authorized persons only.

Here is how you can check your settings for proxy viewing:

- Go to Tools on your GroupWise;
- Go to Options;
- Go to Security;
- Go to the Proxy Access Tab;
- Check to make sure everyone is listed whom you want to give access to and what kind of access they can have;
- Go to Minimum on the list;
- See what kind of access you have allowed everyone to have; and
- If you do not want them to have access, uncheck the boxes.

IMPORTANT: When changing the access rights for each user including MINIMUM, ensure that user is highlighted with a blue highlight bar before changing. This will ensure you are changing the rights for the proper person.

If you are unsure of how to do this or would like to ask for assistance, please contact MIS at (602) 542-0289. É

ADJC Today is the employee newsletter of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections. Unless noted otherwise, articles are written by Communications Division staff. For comments or input, please contact the Communications Office at (602) 542-4497. This document is available in an alternative format upon request.